CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of updating XML-schema-based data to conform to an updated XML schema, the method comprising:

based on a first XML schema that indicates a first structure of one or more first XML attributes, and one or more first values that correspond to said one or more first XML attributes, generating first data that indicates said first structure and a correlation between said one or more first values and said one or more first XML attributes; and

based on said first data and a set of one or more transformations, generating second data that indicates a second structure of one or more second XML attributes and a correlation between one or more of said one or more first values and one or more of said one or more second XML attributes;

wherein said second structure is indicated by a second XML schema that differs from said first XML schema.

2. A method of updating XML-schema-based data to conform to an updated XML schema, the method comprising:

based on a first XML schema that indicates a first structure of one or more first XML elements, and one or more first values that correspond to said one or more first XML elements, generating first data that indicates said first structure and a correlation between said one or more first values and said one or more first XML elements; and

based on said first data and a set of one or more transformations, generating second data that indicates a second structure of one or more second XML elements and a correlation between one or more of said one or more first values and one or more of said one or more second XML elements;

wherein said second structure is indicated by a second XML schema that differs from said first XML schema.

3. The method of Claim 2, wherein said one or more transformations are expressed in Extensible Stylesheet Language (XSL).

4. The method of Claim 2, wherein said one or more first values are stored in one or more database tables.

5. The method of Claim 2, further comprising:

based on said first XML schema and one or more second values that correspond to said one or more first XML elements, generating third data that indicates said first structure and a correlation between said one or more second values and said one or more first XML elements; and

based on said third data and said set of one or more transformations, generating fourth data that indicates said second structure and a correlation between one or more of said one or more second values and one or more of said one or more second XML elements;

wherein said one or more second values differ from said one or more first values.

6. The method of Claim 2, further comprising:

based on a database table that corresponds to an XML element indicated by said first XML schema, generating a first Data Definition Language (DDL) statement

that, when executed, will cause a database table that corresponds to said XML element to be created.

7. The method of Claim 6, further comprising:

executing said first DDL statement; and

based on said second data, inserting one or more of said one or more first values into a database table that was generated as a result of executing said first DDL statement.

8. The method of Claim 6, further comprising:

generating a second DDL statement that, when executed, causes effects of said first DDL statement to be reversed.

9. The method of Claim 8, further comprising:

determining whether an error has occurred in executing said first DDL statement; and

in response to determining that said error has occurred, executing said second DDL statement.

10. The method of Claim 6, further comprising:

generating one or more rollback statements that, when executed, cause said inserting to be reversed.

11. The method of Claim 10, further comprising:

determining whether an error has occurred in said inserting; and

in response to determining that said error has occurred, executing said one or more rollback statements.

12. The method of Claim 2, further comprising:

based on said first XML schema and a third XML schema that indicates a third structure that is based on said first structure, generating a fourth XML schema that indicates said first structure and a correlation between one or more XML elements in said first structure and one or more XML elements in said third structure.

13. The method of Claim 2, further comprising:

based on an existing database table that corresponds to an XML element indicated by said first XML schema, generating a Data Definition Language (DDL) statement that, when executed, will cause a database table that corresponds to said XML element to be created;

after generating said DDL statement, performing steps comprising:

deleting said first XML schema; and

deleting said existing database table; and

after deleting said first XML schema, performing steps comprising:

registering said second XML schema with a database system;

executing said DDL statement; and

based on said second data, inserting one or more of said one or more first values into a database table that was generated as a result of executing said DDL statement.

14. A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the method recited in Claim 1.

15. A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the method recited in Claim 2.

16. A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the method recited in Claim 3.

17. A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the method recited in Claim 4.

18. A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the method recited in Claim 5.

19. A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the method recited in Claim 6.

20. A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the method recited in Claim 7.

21. A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the method recited in Claim 8.

22. A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the method recited in Claim 9.

23. A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the method recited in Claim 10.

24. A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the method recited in Claim 11.

25. A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the method recited in Claim 12.

26. A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the method recited in Claim 13.